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Foster Grandparents Program

...providing opportunities
for seniors to work with children
with exceptional needs

ILLINOIS
Department
on Aging

George H. Ryan
Governor

Margo E. Schreiber
Director

Serving the critical needs of children and youth

Since 1965, the Federal government and the State of Illinois have partnered to provide funding for the ten (10) Foster Grandparent Programs in Illinois through the Corporation for National Service (formerly known as ACTION) and the Illinois Department on Aging.

In Illinois, 743 FGP volunteers have joined the 24,000 seniors nationally who volunteer in the Foster Grandparents Program.

The Foster Grandparents Program...

- Helps abused and neglected children.
- Mentors troubled teenagers and young mothers.
- Provides care for pre-mature infants and children with disabilities.
- Provides different generations opportunities to grow together.
- Improves the lives of children and enriches the volunteers lives.

Nationally, Foster Grandparents contributed 22 million hours of service last year — a value of $286 million dollars.

Where do seniors volunteer?

Foster Grandparents volunteer in:

- Schools
- Hospitals
- Drug treatment centers
- Correctional institutions
- Day care centers
- Head Start programs

At the heart of the program is...

...the one-on-one daily attention that Foster Grandparents provide.
This special care helps young people gain confidence, grow and become productive members of society.

The benefits to individuals, families and communities are both immediate and long lasting.

A good idea — A great investment!

Nationally, 24,000 Foster Grandparents help meet the needs of more than 80,000 children and youth. The average annual cost of institutionalized care for a child is $44,000. Each Foster Grandparent saves taxpayers more than $40,000 per child.

Illinois Foster Grandparents contribute of service in over 5,500 schools.

Who sponsors Foster Grandparents?

- City and State government agencies
- Local agencies serving children
- Community action agencies
- Religious institutions

Who can become a Foster Grandparent?

If you:

- Are at least 60 years of age;
- Meet certain income eligibility requirements;
- Love children; and
- Are willing to volunteer twenty hours a week.

What benefits would I receive?

Foster Grandparents receive a small, tax-free stipend to cover the cost of serving. They receive transportation assistance, meals while on duty, an annual physical examination and supplemental accident and liability coverage while they are volunteering. They also receive forty hours of pre-service orientation and additional monthly training.

d over 654,312 hours

Illinois Foster Grandparents Program Sites

Northern Illinois:

Chicago FGP
Chicago Department on Aging
Chicago, Illinois
(312) 744-3221

Family Care of Illinois
Serving Suburban Chicago
Chicago, Illinois
(773) 429-9381

Kankakee School District 111
Kankakee, Illinois
(815) 937-5065

Joliet Diocesan Catholic Charities
Joliet, Illinois
(815) 723-3405

Tri-County Opportunities Council
Rock Falls, Illinois
(815) 625-7830 (Ext. 18)

Central Illinois:

Peoria Citizens Committee for Economic Opportunity, Inc.
FGP for Peoria & Tazewell Co.
Peoria, Illinois
(309) 671-3950

Central Illinois Economic Development Corporation FGP
Lincoln, Illinois
(217) 732-9391

Central Baptist Children's Home
Serving Sangamon, Lake & McHenry Co.
Springfield, Illinois
(217) 522-7031

Southern Illinois:

Hudelson Baptist Children's Homes
Centralia, Illinois
(618) 532-4311

Senior Services Plus, Inc.
Alton, Illinois
(618) 463-0067

Southwestern Illinois College
East St. Louis, Illinois
(618) 874-8703

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Foster Grandparents

The Foster Grandparents Program is part of the National Senior Service Corp

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To find out how your organization can partner with the Foster Grandparents Program,

call the **Corporation for National Service**, 1-800-424-8867, or the Illinois Department on Aging's **Senior HelpLine**, 1-800-252-8966 (Voice & TTY).

ILLINOIS Department on Aging
421 East Capitol Avenue, #100
Springfield, IL 62701
FAX: (217) 785-4477
www.state.il.us/aging/

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 (voice and TTY).

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